PAGE ATTACK

NEW YORK TIMES 7 APRIL 1983

MOVEMENT IS CITED ON STRATEGIC ARMS

U.S. Officials Disclose Details of Negotiations as a Show of Interest in an Accord

By HEDRICK SMITH Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 6—During the latest round of strategic arms talks, the United States offered to limit the number of long-range bombers and airborne cruise missiles, while the Soviet Union called for a ban on deployment of all kinds of cruise missiles, Administration officials said today.

The officials cited the proposals as evidence of movement in the Geneva talks. Soviet negotiators and some critics in the United States have charged that the original American package last July focused entirely on ballistic missiles. The Russians have large ballistic missile forces whereas the Americans lead in bombers and cruise missiles.

Senator Alan Cranston, a California Democrat who has announced his candiacy for the Presidency, said today that the Administration had "bumbled and blown the opportunity to have significant arms control agreements."

Bomber Ceiling of 400 Offered

The American proposal in the strategic arms talks, which are parallel to the Geneva talks on medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe, called for a ceiling of 400 bombers and for a formula on cruise missiles.

Administration officials also disclosed that Edward L. Rowny, the chief strategic arms negotiator, had offered a draft treaty for confidence-building measures such as advance notice of ballistic missile launchings and of exercises involving strategic forces. The officials said the Russians preferred to include such provisions in an overall strategic arms treaty.

Details on the talks came to light as Mr. Rowny and Paul H. Nitze, the negotiator on medium-range missiles, met behind closed doors with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

After the session, Senator Charles L. Percy, the committee chairman, said that "It does not appear in the foreseeable future that there is a chance" for an accord in either of the two negotiations. He said he believed that the Soviet strategy was to block progress in the talks.

Committee members had wanted to hear from Mr. Rowny in connection with a memorandum on personnel matters that he supplied to Kenneth L. Adelman, who is President Reagan's nominee to head the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

After the session with the two Geneva arms negotiators, Senate sources said the floor debate on Mr. Adelman would be scheduled to begin Monday.

Senator Howard H. Baker Jr. of Tennesse, the Senate majority leader, said the fight over Mr. Adelman would be close but he predicted eventual confirmation.

A leading foe of the nomination, Senator Paul E. Tsongas, Democrat of Massachusetts, said he had enough votes to defeat Mr. Adelman. He said that 40 Democrats were lined up against the nomination and that he hoped for support from 15 Republicans,

A Soviet Violation Suspected

There were these related developments:

9Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger said Moscow "may very well have" violated the second strategic arms limitation treaty, signed in 1979 but not ratified, by testing two new types of missiles in the last six months, whereas the treaty permits only one new type. He did not directly charge a violation on the ground that the treaty and the evidence were ambiguous.

qWilliam E. Jackson Jr., executive director of an advisory committee on arms control under President Jimmy Carter, said the 1979 treaty was being undermined by both Moscow and Washington. "What both sides are doing is to unravel SALT 2," he said.

Intelligence officials said, according to The Associated Press, that the Soviet Union had developed a cruise missile, designated the SSCX-4, with a range of 1,900 miles and suitable for mounting on mobile launchers.

Part of Publicity Effort

The disclosure of developments in the strategic arms talks was part of an effort to counteract charges that the United States was not sufficiently dedicated to arms agreements.

According to the officials who provided the details, the bomber ceiling would let the United States keep the 400 B-52's and B-1's now in active service, eliminating nearly 200 mothballed B-52's, while the Soviet Union could keep its force of 150 heavy bombers known as Bears and Bisons, along with 250 Backfire bombers and a new heavy bomber called Blackjack in the West. In the past, Moscow has argued that the Backfire is a medium-range bomber.

Officials said the formula for limits on air-launched cruise missiles paralleled one in the 1979 treaty, which assumed 20 cruise missiles per bomber.

The original American negotiating position last year focused on reducing the number of ballistic missiles from 1,700 to 850 and limiting each side to 5,000 warheads, a one-third reduction from present totals.

The Americans later asked the Russians to give up their edge in throw-weight, the weight of warheads, on their large missiles. Their total throw-weight is estimated by the United States at 5.4 million kilograms, three times the American level. The Americans also called for a ban on all 308 SS-18 heavy missiles.

The Soviet Union has presented a draft treaty calling for a reduction from 2,400 to 1,800 in strategic missile launchers and heavy bombers on both sides and a complete ban on cruise missiles. American officials said the Russians had accepted the idea of limiting the number of warheads but had put forward no specific ceiling.